

WELCOME TO THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Consumer Affairs

[Home](#) → [Licensee](#) → [Sponsored Free Health Care Events](#)

Sponsored Free Health Care Events

NOTE: This page remains under construction and will be updated as the Board rolls out more information. The Board welcomes you to check back often.

The Medical Board of California (Board) is pleased to announce that regulations for physicians and surgeons (M.D.) who volunteer to provide medical services at "Sponsored Free Health Care Events" became effective August 20, 2012.

The following information is meant to serve as a summary of the program and the requirements; however, all interested parties should read the full text of the legislation and the regulations.

ENACTING LEGISLATION:

[Click to view AB 2699 \(Chapter 270, Statutes of 2010\), the legislation that enacted the program.](#)

AB 2699 added California Business and Professions Code Section 901 (B&P Section 901), which provides a framework whereby healing arts boards are authorized to adopt regulations under which a health care practitioner licensed and in good standing in another state, district or territory of the United States may, under specified conditions, provide health care services for a limited time in California without obtaining California licensure. These professional services only can be provided at free health care events sponsored by certain entities.

GOVERNING REGULATIONS:

Although AB 2699 became effective in 2011, the program could not be implemented until regulations were in place. The Board has adopted Sections 1333, 1333.1, 1333.2, and 1333.3 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to implement the provisions of B&P Section 901. Click on this [link](#) to view the regulations. These regulations only apply to out-of-state M.D.s. Other healthcare professionals should check with the appropriate California board for eligibility requirements to participate in free health care events.

SPONSORING ENTITIES:

Under the auspices of this program, free health care events can be sponsored either by a local government entity or a "sponsoring entity."

A "sponsoring entity" is a non-governmental entity that wishes to sponsor a free health care event and must be either a nonprofit organization (organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code) or a community-based organization, which is defined as a public or private nonprofit organization that is representative of a community or a significant segment of a community, and is engaged in meeting human, educational, environmental, or public safety community needs.

A non-government organization sponsoring a free health care event to uninsured and underinsured individuals may include participation by certain healthcare practitioners licensed outside of California if the organization registers with the California licensing authorities having jurisdiction over those professions. Local government entities that plan to sponsor a free health care event are not required to register.

Registration Form: A sponsoring entity can register by submitting the completed "Registration of Sponsoring Entity under Business & Professions Code Section 901," Form 901-A. The Board has delegated the registration process for sponsoring entities to the Department of Consumer Affairs.

To register, download this [form](#). This form must be completed and submitted by the sponsoring entity at least 90 calendar days prior to the sponsored event.

The form must be submitted to the Department of Consumer Affairs, as indicated on page 3 of the form.

Posting of Notice: Sponsoring entities must post a notice visible to patients at every station where patients are being seen by a M.D. The notice shall be in at least 48-point type in Arial font and include a statement and information as shown in this document. Entities either can print and use this [document](#) or have a similar notice printed, so long as it meets the legal requirements.

Fingerprinting of Out-of-State M.D. Volunteers: Sponsoring entities should be aware that all out-of-state M.D.s must be fingerprinted before an authorization will be granted by the Board. (See more information, below.) The sponsoring entity should consider the services of mobile Live Scan operators who can travel to the entities' area; this would be a viable option if a number of healthcare volunteers (not just M.D. volunteers) are coming from a single geographic area.

OUT-OF-STATE M.D. VOLUNTEERS:

A person who is not licensed to practice medicine in California but who holds a current valid M.D. license or certificate in good standing in another state, district, or territory of the United States to practice medicine can volunteer to provide medical services at a sponsored free health care event.

An out-of-state M.D. cannot apply independently; each application must specify the event at which the M.D. wants to volunteer.

Note for California Licensees: A California licensed M.D. may volunteer to provide medical services at a free health care event if your

California license is (1) renewed and current or (2) in a volunteer status. No further action is required before offering/volunteering services.

Application Process and Fees: An out-of-state licensed M.D. may request authorization to participate in a sponsored free health care event by submitting to the Board a completed "Request for Authorization to Practice Without a California License at a Sponsored Free Health Care Event," Form 901-B.

If the application is approved, the Board will notify both the out-of-state M.D. and the sponsoring entity that authorization has been given for the M.D. to participate in a specific free health care event; the authorization period may not be for more than 10 days.

An out-of-state M.D. must submit a new application and processing fee for each health event at which he or she wants to volunteer.

To apply for authorization, download this [form](#). This completed form must be submitted by the out-of-state M.D. at least 20 calendar days prior to the sponsored event. The form must be submitted to:

Medical Board of California
ATTN: Licensing Program - Health Care Events
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200
Sacramento, CA 95815

Every application form must be accompanied by payment of a non-refundable, non-transferable processing fee of \$25.

Fingerprinting Process and Fees: Before authorization can be granted to an out-of-state M.D., a criminal record check must be performed by the California Department of Justice and the FBI. A one-time, non-refundable fingerprint process fee of \$49 must be paid by the out-of-state M.D. Once an out-of-state M.D. has been fingerprinted and authorization has been granted by the Board, this fingerprinting process need not be repeated if the out-of-state M.D. wishes to volunteer at future health care events in California.

An out-of-state M.D. seeking authorization must submit a completed set of fingerprint cards and should do so promptly. The M.D. may contact the Board's Consumer Information Unit at (916) 263-2382 to request paper fingerprint cards. The results of paper fingerprint cards generally are received within twelve (12) weeks after the cards have been submitted to the Board.

In the alternative, out-of-state M.D.s may come to California to use Live Scan, an electronic fingerprinting process; it is expeditious, but it is available only in California. The results of Live Scan generally are received within five (5) days after the prints are scanned. To use Live Scan, please use this [form](#). For a list of Live Scan locations in California, click on this [link](#). (If you are an out-of-state M.D. and want to use Live Scan, you may want to discuss with the event sponsors about the services of mobile Live Scan operators who can travel to your area; this would be a viable option if a number of healthcare volunteers are coming from a single geographic area.)

Posting of Notice: An out-of-state M.D. who receives authorization to practice medicine at an event sponsored by a local government entity shall place a notice visible to patients at every station at which that person will be seeing patients. The notice shall be in at least 48-point type in Arial font and include a statement and information as shown in this [document](#). Volunteers either can print and use this document or have a similar notice printed, so long as it meets the legal requirements. While the posting requirement is not required when a "local government entity" is sponsoring the event, the out-of-state M.D. must receive authorization from the Board before volunteering at the event.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Local government and sponsoring entities requiring more information about registration for sponsored free health care events should contact the Department of Consumer Affairs at:

Telephone: (916) 574-7800

Fax: (916) 574-8655

E-mail: lpdivision@dca.ca.gov

M.D. volunteers requiring more information about registration for sponsored free health care events should contact Kevin A. Schunke, the Board's Licensing Outreach Manager, at:

Telephone: (916) 263-2368

E-mail: webmaster@mbc.ca.gov

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